

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 01015 071420Z

ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01  
NSC-05 OMB-01 INR-07 USIA-06 COME-00 PC-01 DODE-00  
/054 W

-----128673 071930Z /47

R 071350Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7609

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 1015

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AODE

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL LEVELS

REF: STATE 201122,

1. THIS EMBASSY LAST PROVIDED AN ASSESSMENT OF ITS  
PERSONNEL LEVELS AS A PART OF ITS ANNUAL POLICY AND  
RESOURCE ASSESSMENT. SEE VALLETTA'S 0380 OF APRIL 4, 1977.

2. THAT ASSESSMENT CONCLUDED, AFTER NOTING THAT VALLETTA  
HAD ELIMINATED TWO AMERICAN POSITIONS IN 1974, ONE IN 1975,  
AND ONE IN 1976, THAT EMBASSY STAFFING IS NOW AT A  
MINIMUM LEVEL FOR EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS AND THAT ANY  
FURTHER REDUCTIONS WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE EMBASSY'S  
ABILITY TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

3. THAT REMAINS OUR POSITION. WITH THE ONE-MAN  
ARRANGEMENT WE NOW OPERATE ON IN ALL SECTIONS, WE CAN'T  
COME UP WITH 85 AND 95 PER CENT ALTERNATIVES WITHOUT  
CUTTING OUT THE SECTIONS ENTIRELY. I HAVE A DCM WHO  
IS ALSO MY POLITICAL OFFICER. I HAVE ONE ECONOMIC  
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PAGE 02 VALLET 01015 071420Z

OFFICER, SUPPORTED BY ONE FSL, FOCUSING ON OUR EFFORTS TO  
PROTECT AND ENCOURAGE U.S. INVESTMENT HERE - OF KEY  
IMPORTANCE TO OUR FUTURE POLITICAL POSITION IN MALTA.  
I HAVE AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WHO LAST YEAR ALSO  
TOOK ON THE CONSULAR DUTIES OF THIS EMBASSY. I DO NOT  
RECOMMEND REDUCTIONS IN OUR SMALL FSL CONTINGENTS IN  
THOSE SECTIONS.

4. AS FAR AS OTHER AGENCIES ARE CONCERNED, WE HAVE A ONE-MAN USIS OPERATION WHICH CANNOT BE REDUCED UNLESS WE WANT TO CUT OUT THE WORK WHICH USIS IS DOING. I DON'T. IT IS CENTRAL TO OUR GROUND-HOLDING OPERATION HERE, LOOKING TO A FUTURE WHEN THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT COULD IMPROVE; ITS PROGRAMMING AND PLACEMENT ACTIVITIES WERE DESCRIBED IN A JUST COMPLETED USIS INSPECTION AS "UNUSUALLY COST EFFECTIVE."

5. THE PEACE CORPS HAS ONE PCV IN MALTA. WE ARE IN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOM AS TO THEIR INTEREST IN REPLACEMENT AND A POSSIBLE MODEST EXPANSION OF THE PC PRESENCE.

6. THE ONLY OTHER U.S. PRESENCE HERE IS THE DAO, CONSISTING OF THE DEFENSE ATTACHE, ONE ENLISTED ADMIN ASSISTANT, AND ONE FSL DRIVER. A SECOND ADMIN ASSISTANT WAS ELIMINATED THIS PAST SUMMER. I WILL BE ADDRESSING THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF THIS OFFICE SEPARATELY, BUT MY PRESENT VIEW IS THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY DISADVANTAGEOUS TO ELIMINATE DAO VALLETTA AT A TIME WHEN THE FUTURE POLITICAL/SECURITY STATUS OF MALTA IS NOT YET DETERMINED AND IN ANY EVENT NOT PRIOR TO THE END OF THE NATO RENTAL ARRANGEMENT (PARTIALLY U.S. FINANCED) IN MARCH 1979, COINCIDING WITH THE FINAL DEPARTURE OF THE BRITISH MILITARY PRESENCE ON MALTA. THAT WILL REQUIRE SCHEDULING A REPLACE-

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PAGE 03 VALLET 01015 071420Z

MENT FOR THE PRESENT DAO, WHOSE ASSIGNMENT HERE WILL TERMINATE IN MID-1978. LAINGEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 9d83aa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION MMO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 201122  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL LEVELS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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